

# NEVADA DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

## FACT SHEET

(pursuant to NAC 445A.236)

**Permittee:** Douglas County  
P.O. Box 218  
Minden, Nevada 89423

**Permit:** NEV2001502

**Location:** China Spring Youth Camp  
225 China Spring Road  
Gardnerville, Douglas County, Nevada  
Township 11N, Range 21E, Section 18 MDB&M  
Latitude 38° 49' 20" N, Longitude 119° 39' 30" W

**Flow:** 11,200 gallons per day (0.0112 MGD - Daily Maximum)

**General Description:** The camp is a non profit juvenile residential treatment center. The facility commenced operations in 1982 and has grown to include a dormitory, mess hall, classrooms, administrative building, vocational center, gymnasium, and livestock buildings. The facility will be further expanded with the construction of a replacement boys dormitory with a design capacity of 40 boys and a new girls dormitory with a design capacity of 24 girls.

The facility has historically employed septic tanks for wastewater treatment. Wastewater has been disposed via evaporation ponds and leach fields. The leach fields will remain in place for emergency use. The soils have limited and variable percolation characteristics for subsurface disposal capabilities. Sewer service is not available to this site.

To accommodate the increased flow of an expanded facility, the applicant has proposed a treatment system that will consist of:

- Septic tanks for primary treatment, removal of settleable solids and debris.
- Septic tank effluent will be discharged to a lift station that will pump the wastewater to the complete mix aerobic ponds.
- Two 50,000-gallon with 3 feet of freeboard, HDPE lined, aerated complete mix ponds in parallel will provide secondary treatment of the wastewater.
- The complete mix ponds will discharge to an alternating dosing tank with a 298-gallon discharge volume. The dosing tank will provide a sufficient velocity and volume to flush the distribution pipes to the disposal ponds.
- The treated wastewater will be discharged to one of four percolation/evaporation ponds, two 0.75-acre and two 0.375-acre ponds. The ponds have been designed to have sufficient volume for winter storage based on a 30-day average discharge rate of 8,500 gallons per day and an adequate surface area for percolation and evaporation.

The potable water well is located approximately 1,100 feet to the northeast of the ponds. This eight-inch well was constructed to a total depth of 597 feet below ground surface (bgs) in 1996 and is screened from 295 feet to 587 feet. The direction of groundwater movement in the vicinity of the potable water well is in a south/southeast direction toward an intermittent stream that bisects the camp. An irrigation well is located approximately 700 feet to the east of the ponds.

**Description of Discharge:** Effluent discharged from the two aerated, complete mix ponds to the four percolation/evaporation ponds is required to meet secondary treatment standards. Disinfection is not required.

The daily maximum flow rate is 0.0112 million gallons per day (MGD).

**Receiving Water Characteristics:** The groundwater in the vicinity of the discharge is approximately 53 feet bgs and is estimated to flow in a northeast direction. A monitoring well will be drilled approximately 150 feet to the northeast of the ponds and this water will be characterized prior to plant start up.

The static water level at the potable water well is approximately 145 feet bgs. The groundwater quality at this site has demonstrated the following concentrations, as determined by groundwater samples analyzed in February 2000:

Total dissolved solids	700	mg/L
Nitrate	<0.3 N	mg/L
Chloride	8.6	mg/L
Sulfate	340	mg/L

**Procedures for Public Comment:** The Notice of the Division's intent to issue a permit authorizing the Applicant to discharge treated wastewater to groundwater of the State subject to the conditions contained within the permit, is being sent to the **Record-Courier** for publication. The notice is being mailed to interested persons on our mailing list. Anyone wishing to comment on the proposed permit can do so in writing for a period of 30 days following the date of the public notice, by 5:00 PM May 31, 2001. The comment period can be extended at the discretion of the Administrator.

A public hearing on the proposed determination can be requested by the applicant, any affected State, any affected interstate agency, the Regional Administrator of EPA Region IX or any interested agency, person or group of persons. The request must be filed within the comment period and must indicate the interest of the person filing the request and the reasons why a hearing is warranted.

Any public hearing determined by the Administrator to be held must be conducted in the geographical area of the proposed discharge or any other area the Administrator determined to be appropriate. All public hearings must be conducted to accordance with NAC 445A.236. The final determination of the Administrator may be appealed to the State Environmental Commission pursuant to NRS 445A.605.

**Proposed Determination:** The Division has made the tentative determination to issue the proposed permit for a period of five (5) years.

**Schedule of Compliance and Special Conditions:** The Permittee shall implement and comply with the provisions of the schedule of compliance after approval by the Administrator, including in said implementation and compliance, any additions or modifications that the Administrator may make in approving the schedule of compliance.

- a. The Permittee shall achieve compliance with the effluent limitations upon issuance of the permit.
- b. The Permittee shall construct a monitoring well, MW-1, per the approved February 22, 2001 China Spring Youth Camp design drawings, and analyze the groundwater from this well for the constituents listed in the Groundwater Monitoring Table of Part I.A.1 prior to discharge.
- c. The Permittee shall submit an O & M Manual within six (6) months of the effective date of this permit.
- d. If an interceptor is constructed to transport wastewater, to a municipal treatment plant becomes available, the China Spring Youth Camp shall be connected to the interceptor and the treatment plant shall be abandoned in accordance with a schedule imposed by the Division.

The treatment plant shall be abandoned in a manner approved by the Division.  
There are no special conditions.

**Rationale For Permit Requirements:** Monitoring is required to assess the loading to the treatment plant and the level of secondary treatment being provided, and to determine the impacts of the discharge upon groundwater quality.

Prepared by: Bruce Holmgren  
Date: April 2001  
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